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# NARRATIVES FROM THE WAR

IN CHARGE OF

ELISABETH ROBINSON SCOVIL

A pamphlet, "The Only Way Out," has been issued in Munich and reached the outer world through Switzerland, in which it is suggested that the Hohenzollerns should be deposed and the Wittelbachs, the royal family of Bavaria, placed on the throne.

The little Princess Royal of Belgium is in England with her brothers. She raised a large sum for the Belgian soldiers' Christmas fund by presenting the contributors with her photograph signed by herself. She is not only an object of deep sympathy in England but is very popular with all classes on account of her bright, engaging personality.

An English officer, writing of the American aviators serving with the Allied Armies, says of a combat in the air, "One sees two specks approaching one another and with a pair of strong glasses gradually realizes that one of the specks is an American who has given up everything, home, prosperity, and probably life, to throw himself into a foreign army and that the other is a brave German, doing what he conceives to be his duty—one realizes that there are two combatants worth watching." When asked why they came, the American aviators all said, in effect, "The sort of thing that has been going on in Europe as a result of the horrible organized savagery of the Prussians, has got to be stopped. We want to stop it before it reaches our own country. We have come over here to do it, and thank God, we know we are helping to do it and that it is being thoroughly done."

The price of food in the neutral countries of Europe is seriously affected by the war. Provisions in Spain are almost beyond the reach of the poorer classes. Butter is 75 cents a pound and other food in proportion. In Hungary it is \$2 a pound. In Turkey, prices are said to have advanced 900 per cent, no flour is obtainable and crushed maize is substituted. In Austria the price of foodstuffs is almost prohibitive; pork, for example, costs \$1.47 for 2 pounds, 3 ounces. The suffering of the population from underfeeding is very great.

Harry Lauder, who has recently lost his only child, a captain in the Imperial army, at the front, resumed his part in "Three Cheers" at the Shaftsbury Theater. When, dressed in khaki, he sang, "When the Boys Come Home," his voice failed at the second verse. The audience, much stirred, sprang to its feet. At the close of the perform-

ance he thanked the audience for its sympathy and said, "I know it would have been the wish of my soldier boy that I should do my duty to my fellow men."

France does not seem to have exhausted all her energy in warfare. She proposes to expend about \$3,500,000 at Caen upon the enlargement and deepening of a canal and harbor to accommodate vessels of larger tonnage. She also proposes to hold an Industrial Exhibition in May, in the Tuileries Gardens, in Paris. An industrial fair will be held in London in the same month.

In June last it was announced in England that in exceptional circumstances, on the special recommendation of the commander-in-chief in the field, the military might be awarded to women who had shown bravery and devotion under fire. It has recently been conferred on Staff Nurse Catherine M. Carruthers.

Ottawa is sending 3000 poultry to help in restocking the devastated Belgian farms.

The John Rylands Library, Manchester, England, is collecting books to replenish in happier times the ruined library of Louvain. Already 8000 have been received.

The princes, chiefs and people of Rajputana, India, have given four and a half lakhs of rupees, about \$150,000 to the King-Emperor for aeroplanes and machine guns for the war. The Gaekwar of Baroda has lent his splendid residence in Bombay for a war hospital and has given a lakh of rupees to the Imperial Indian Relief Fund. These are only a few of many valuable gifts made recently by the Indian subjects of the Empire.

Herr C. H. Stielow, for many years London representative of the *Lokal-Anzeiger*, is now editor of the prisoners' magazine at a London internment camp. He contributed a poem to the Christmas number, recalling past Christmases in the Fatherland.

The Baroness Huard, wife of Charles Huard, the noted artist, and a daughter of Francis Wilson, "American by birth, French by education and marriage," as she describes herself, lived in a beautiful *château* on the Marne, on the main road from Belgium. In the latter days of August 1915, 1,500,000 Belgian refugees passed her gates. She turned her house into a hospital. Later it was occupied by the Germans, but she was able eventually to restore it to the wounded.

The Canadian Red Cross, besides contributing ample supplies for their own men, has sent large contributions to the French government for French hospitals and to Italian, Serbian and Russian Red Cross depots.